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About Messrs. Kennedy, Nixon and Cuba

The renewed conflict between President Kennedy and former Vice-President Nixon over the Cuban debate in the 1960 campaign has some aspect of ancient history. Yet it also stirs large questions that deserve to be aired and answered.

With respect to the facts, there is clearly a large gap. In his new book, Mr. Nixon charges that Mr. Kennedy, at the very moment when he was publicly calling for active American aid to the anti-Castro forces and in effect reproaching the Eisenhower Administration for inertia, knew that a guerrilla force was being trained under U. S. direction. Such information had been given to Mr. Kennedy, Nixon asserts, in CIA "briefings."

Mr. Kennedy flatly denies that he had received any such information. His denial is strongly supported by CIA chief Allen Dulles, who certainly has no visible Democratic bias, and who politely suggests that there has been an "honest misunderstanding." Mr. Eisenhower has issued a rather guarded affirmation of Nixon's version.

All that is plain in this tangle is that, at no time in the preparation of his book, did Mr. Nixon seek to check the facts with Allen Dulles. If he had, he would surely have been obliged to record Mr. Dulles' rebuttal. This must, at the very least, be described as journalistic negligence.

But in another sense it does not go to the heart of the matter. For the deeper question, which seems to elude Mr. Nixon, is whether his subsequent conduct would have been justified even if Mr. Kennedy were totally guilty as charged.

Mr. Nixon says that, when his opponent issued his call for direct aid to the anti-Castro rebels, he felt it was not only his duty to maintain silence on our secret operations but to "go to the other extreme" and denounce Mr. Kennedy's proposal. This he did in their ensuing television debate; he said Kennedy's call for action was "dangerously irresponsible," that if unheeded, "lose all our friends in Latin America" and provide an "open invitation" to Premier Khrushchev "to come into Latin America and to engage us in what would be a civil war and possibly worse than that."

It is perhaps ironic, Mr. Nixon himself notes, that what many editorialists in many places deemed his finest hour, full of statesmanlike overtones, proved to be an act of calculated duplicity.

—The Broadway show-barking virtuosi—
Merle, "I guess," she said, "Merle is on the side of the rebels
easily, but lost her negotiations about safety with pro-Israel
Lillian Roth won her, "I Can Get It for You Wholesale" role
book," for Simon & Schuster.
have split, they'll write pieces for the "Letter to Lowe Song
office he decided to stay put . . . Although Letter and Lowe
from the British Theater, but after studying the lines at the box
Hollings, are writing bulletins, Prowess' nightclubs act for the
Talmadge, . . . Richard Rodgers has an option to move "No Strings"
Frank Sinatra's songwriters, Sammy Chan and Jimmy Van
not of you yet."

some toward that shocked my sister, and I'll make a press agent
North Broadfields Town Hall, Cohen told him: "Find a rat in
burn made front-page news by breaking Cohen, instead, into
had been scared to play Worcester House there . . . Wash-
ness," he refused to tell who he was his mother
Charles Washington, press agent for the Bimble Club, was
rained by George M. Cohen. When Cohen stared in "Ah, Wilder-
ness," he refused to play Worcester, because his mother
Frank Sinatra's songwriters, Sammy Chan and Jimmy Van
not the Senate, with no better
the \$100,000 UN bond issue,
it wants badly and which was
made plans to see his prede-
however, out in the California
ompare notes and engage in
talk about such matters as
isarmament partly, summi-
t in the Senate, with no better
the House.

not the speech itself, when he
nator's thesis at his weekly
only newspaper accounts of
cordings to insiders, that the
dissatisfaction with UN Am-
a ventiloquist dummy to
as to suspect that the Senator
"put up" job, a few far-out
askson's speech was greeted in
"In his next film, "A Tenant for Loving," Peter
Sellers will speak with a Tennessee accent. He's studying records
messages by Tennessee Sen. Kenefick, however,
for its World Memorial Press Center. The Forum Gallery is
new William Holden movie, will go to the Overseas Press Club
ministration. In fact, he
atic senators have been lot-
peccable, penetrating nature
upply here for some time.
niversity, under the heading, "This is what the real Walter Kerr
review, under the heading, "This is what the real Walter Kerr
lashed off any show in years . . . Merle, will advertise this

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